

The
Botanical Gazette.

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My dear Dr. Watson:--

I send you under separate cover the MSS. of the Ranunculaceae of F.F. & G. Botany. I have had the original draft done since Nov. 10, but I have had absolutely no time to copy it, having been away from home all of the first week and part of the second after finishing it. I was afraid that you could not read parts of the first draft, so that I felt obliged to put it into proper shape. I think however that you will want to know just what changes have been made without the trouble of comparing it point by point. I therefore enclose the slips so that this can be readily discovered. When any of the scratching is illegible the type-written copy will clear the matter up. As all of the last genera were comparatively clean I have only copied as far as *Coptis*. Please let me know whether the plan on which I have been working is acceptable or not.

I find myself in considerable doubt on the matter of including or excluding certain species of wild plants. Shall all of the Manual plants be included except those which are marked "rare"? For example: Ought I to include such species as *Ranunculus parviflorus* and *Purshii*? *Clematis reticulata* and *Catesbyana*? Ought I ^{not} to exclude such as *Clematis Baldwinii*? None of these appear, so you will see what I think about it.

While on this subject let me ask what is to be done with those orders which Dr.Gray considered too hard for beginners. Am I to continue the omission of the Umbelliferae, Gramineae and Cyperaceae ? And must the Asters and Solidagos be sent to limbo again ? If these plants cannot have the full descriptions inserted ---i.e.as full as of the others----would it not be well to insert them in key form at least ?

In going over the Ranuncs I noted on or two errata in the Manual memoranda of which I enclose.

I should esteem it a favor ^{to} ~~if I can~~ receive your opinion on the various points above as soon as possible, as I do not want to work on an erroneous plan longer than is necessary.

Very sincerely yours,

C. R. Barnes

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